FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 JULY 1983

Lebanon

Security, Military Situation — Beirut International Airport was temporarily closed on the morning of 22 July after being hit by shells that killed one person, wounded several others, and caused material damage, Beirut radio reported. The shelling followed a night of violent artillery exchanges between Druze and Christian militia in the mountains east of the capital during which several people were killed, according to the radio. The clashes continued for 6 hours throughout the night, turning the entire mountain area into "hell" and causing heavy material damage, Voice of Lebanon radio said. Meanwhile, 11 Israeli soldiers were injured when a bomb exploded near an IDF patrol in 'Aley, according to a statement by the IDF spokesman broadcast by IDF Radio.

A Syrian military spokesman announced earlier in a statement broadcast by Damascus television that Syrian antiaircraft fire downed an Israeli drone overflying the Al-Biqa' valley on 21 July. However, the IDF spokesman said Israeli planes evaded Syrian missiles and returned safely to base, according to Jerusalem radio. The Voice of Lebanon said the Syrians fired a SAM-6 at an Israeli plane but did not hit their target.

Lebanese-U.S. Talks — During official talks with Secretary of State Shultz and other U.S. officials in Washington, President Amin al-Jumayyil's delegation affirmed Lebanon's rejection of a partial Israeli withdrawal and demanded a "clear stand" on the issue, Beirut radio reported. Al-Jumayyil said a partial withdrawal will lead to the partition of Lebanon and described Israel's redeployment plan as "totally unacceptable," according to Radio Monte Carlo. He also accused Syria of involvement in the latest shelling in the Beirut area, telling journalists in Washington that Damascus will be shelled if the Syrians do not halt their "terrorism," the Voice of Lebanon reported.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Aden after talks with senior PDRY officials, Aden radio reported. The Amman paper *Ad-Dustur* said 'Arafat will convene a PLO Executive Committee meeting in Tunis on 22 July. Meanwhile, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir has dismissed Al-Haj Isma'il and Abu Hajim, the two officers whose recent appointments to military commands in Lebanon sparked the mutiny in Fatah, AFP reported citing PLO sources in Tripoli, Lebanon. Al-Wazir replaced the two officers — widely accused of incompetence during the 1982 Israeli invasion — with two men of "excellent reputation," AFP said, and his action was closely coordinated with Yasir 'Arafat. Al-Wazir also announced that Fatah has begun to solve its internal crisis and affirmed Fatah's readiness to meet with Syrian officials to resolve the PLO-Syrian dispute, according to Radio Monte Carlo. In a similar vein, Voice of Lebanon cited reports of a "relative rapprochement" between 'Arafat and the dissidents and of secret contacts between the two sides.

Syria

Soviet Delegation — A senior Soviet military official leading a large delegation has arrived in Damascus, the London daily *Ash-Sharq al-Awsat reported.*

'Arafat Expulsion Linked to Coup — Diplomatic sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio said Syria's decision to expel Yasir 'Arafat was linked to a coup attempt foiled by the authorities the day before he was deported. Thirty military officers were arrested several hours before the coup was scheduled to start, the radio said.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi and the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia and Algeria met in Tunis as the "Arab Committee for Clearing the Arab Atmosphere," SPA reported. Klibi said afterward that the committee reviewed current problems and decided to give priority to Palestinian-Syrian relations, which will be the subject of a further committee meeting after contacts with the Syrian and PLO leaders.

Egypt

Egypt supports the establishment of a Palestinian government-in-exile that would be able to ensure broader international support for the Palestinian people's peaceful goals, President Husni Mubarak announced in a speech on Cairo radio marking the anniversary of the 1952 revolution. Noting that Egypt concluded the peace treaty with Israel as part of a broader arrangement to remedy all aspects of the Arab-Israeli dispute, particularly the Palestinian issue, Mubarak said Egyptians do not believe the peace process should come to a halt and consider that peace exists only if it is "comprehensive and stable." The other parties involved should seek to complete the links of peace in order to achieve the liberation of Arab territory in the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan Heights, and to secure the withdrawal of invading forces from Lebanon, Mubarak added.

On other aspects of foreign policy he expressed concern over current events in Chad, calling on all parties involved to view matters on a long-term basis and reaffirmed Egypt's desire for an agreement to restore Iranian-Iraqi relations and end the war.

Israel

Knesset Motion — The Knesset resolved by a 52-46 vote to strike from the agenda Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres' motion to debate the functioning of the government, Jerusalem radio reported. In his speech against the motion, which was broadcast by the radio, Prime Minister Menahem Begin admitted that difficulties exist and that not all his desired national goals have been achieved, but he described Peres' criticisms as "spiteful"

and called the wording of the opposition motion a "linguistic invention."

Shamir on FRG-Arab Arms Deals — Israel "will not accept" arms deals between the FRG and the Arab countries, even if it is promised "compensation," Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset in remarks reported by IDF Radio.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman announced that over 1,000 Iranians were killed and many others were captured or wounded in an abortive Iranian attack in the northern sector of the front, INA reported. The daily Iranian Armed Forces communique, broadcast by Tehran radio, did not mention any Iranian offensive. An Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio said Iraqi planes launched intensive raids against Iranian positions and claimed that an Iranian helicopter was shot down in flames.

Iran

The Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) claimed responsibility for grenade attacks on the French trade office and the Air France office in Tehran, AFP reported. No one was hurt in the explosions, which followed ASALA's threat to attack French institutions unless France freed terrorists jailed in connection with the recent Orly Airport explosion.

Libya

"I will have no hesitation" in concluding a treaty of friendship with the Soviet Union "if circumstances require this," Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi declared in an interview with *Le Monae*. The Libyan leader said his former criticisms of Arabs who linked their fate with the Soviet Union were "not based on practical personal experience." Al-Qadhdhafi denied harboring enmity toward PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the Fatah leadership, saying he is "very fond" of 'Arafat, whom he considers a "personal friend." However, Libya has a natural affinity for the "real revolutionaries" who sparked off the rising in Fatah, he added.

On African subjects, Al-Qadhdhafi said peace must now be given a chance in the Western Sahara through negotiations and a referendum to establish self-determination. He sharply criticized French intervention in Chad, asserting that France is working in the "bad company" of the United States to turn a purely internal conflict into a confrontation between imperialism and a people who aspire freedom. France should play no role in Chad or anywhere else in Africa, Al-Qadhdhafi stated, and it has created a "dangerous precedent by choosing to support rebels against the legitimate government." The Libyan leader disclosed that he has invited French President Francois Mitterrand for talks to eliminate misunderstandings and problems, adding that the Libyans are awaiting France's reply to this proposal.

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AFP: Moderate Rebels Favor United Front Under King
BK211535 Hong Kong AFP in English 1514 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, July 21 (AFP) — Moderate Afghan rebels today announced their support of efforts by former King Zaher Shah to form a united front against the Kabul regime.

In a communique released today at the close of a meeting of the Supreme Council of the Tripartite Alliance, a moderate and minority grouping within the resistance, rebel leaders called for the first time for the creation of a united front under the direction of the former Afghan monarch.

King Zaher Shah issued an appeal from his exile in Rome last month for the unification of the Afghan resistance.

The former king, overthrown 10 years ago by his cousin Prince Daud, is considered among moderate Afghan circles as the only figure capable of uniting the resistance.

But the Alliance of Fundamentalist Resistants, known to have the most effective guerrilla forces, remains opposed to any return of the king to the political scene.

Karmal, Keshtmand Congratulate Polish Leaders
LD220533 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Kabul, July 21, BAKHTAR — President Babrak Karmal and Premier Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand have sent a congratulatory telegram to Jaruzelski first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party and president of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Poland, and Henri Jablonski president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Poland.

Confidence is expressed in the telegram that the fraternal ties and cooperation between the people, parties and governments of the two countries will further develop in the interest of progress, social justice and peace all over the world.

Briefs

Public Works Minister to USSR — Public Works Minister Nazar Mohammad heads a delegation that left today for a friendly visit to the USSR at the invitation of the USSR State Committee for Construction. He will carry out talks to broaden cooperation between the two countries. [Summary] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Jul 83 LD]

Kabul Mayor Returns From USSR — Kabul Mayor (Adina Sangin) today returned to Kabul after an official and friendly visit to the USSR. During his stay in Moscow, he visited city projects and held useful and productive talks to broaden cooperation between the two cities. The Kabul mayor went to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the mayor of Moscow. [Summary] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Jul 83 LD]

Charges of Interfering in Sri Lanka Rejected

BK211644 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] India has rejected the charge that it is interfering in any way in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka. The denial was made today by the spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi while answering questions about reports in the Sri Lanka press making the accusation against India. The charge was made in the context of promulgation of the Public Security Act by the Sri Lanka Government which permits disposal of bodies without any inquest of those killed in any action by the security forces.

There are a large number of people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka, especially in the Jaffna region. India has drawn the attention of the Sri Lanka Government to this fact in the context of the security act and conveyed its views to Colombo because it seems cncerned about them.

The spokesman reaffirmed that India values its historical ties with Sri Lanka and the two countries have been exchanging views on matters of mutual interest in a spirit of friendship. He said we do not know on what basis the Sri Lanka press has given a slanted account of these contexts. While India does not wish to make any further comment without studying the reports in detail, there is no question of interference in Sri Lanka's affairs.

Gandhi Remarks During Uttar Pradesh Visit Cited

BK220219 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The prime minister today termed as quite intricate the stand of the opposition on the Punjab problem. Addressing a news conference in Dehra Dun, Mrs Gandhi said that the opposition leaders said something to her and contradicted the same while addressing themselves to the Akali leaders. She pointed out that they ask the government to deal firmly with Akalis and other insurrectionists but their attitude toward the Akali leaders was conciliatory.

She clarified that the Congress-I is not backing the strike of the nongazetted government employees in Andhra Pradesh. However, her party is opposed to the lowering of government servants' retirement age in the state.

Earlier addressing a public meeting in Pauri Garhwal, the prime minister warned of the danger of conflicts between the developed and the developing nations if the global economic crisis continues. She pointed out that the recent nonaligned conference expressed in clear terms its concern over the deepening of the crisis.

Mrs Gandhi announced that the center is planning to set up a TV center in Garhwal.

Mrs Gandhi also addressed jawans [soldiers] of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police at (Matli) near Uttarkashi. She asked the people to guard against the designs of some elements which are trying to weaken the country. She called upon them to sink their petty differences and work for making India strong and self-reliant. There is a need to emulate the discipline of our defense forces in every walk of life, she said.

The prime minister has returned to New Delhi after a 2-day tour of the Garhwal region of Uttar Pradesh.

Akali Dal Claims Support of All Sikh Community

BK211729 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] The Akali Dal has criticized the remarks made by Mrs Gandhi at Joshimath yesterday regarding the Akali agitation. A statement issued by the Dal headquarters in Amritsar claimed that the agitation has the support of all Sikhs.

Supreme Court To Hear Sikh Temple Act Challenge

BK220222 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] The Supreme Court today issued notice to the Union of India and the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee on a petition challenging the constitutional validity of the Sikh Gurdawara Act, 1925.

Issuing the notice, the division bench comprising Mr Justice (V.P. Madan) and Mr Justice (V.D. Durgapurkar) observed that gurdanwaras have really become political hotbeds. They also pointed out that if the government control is removed, the gurdawaras would become worse hideouts since nobody would be there to check the activities in them.

The petition, filed by Mr (Vikram Singh) of Faridkot and Mr (Bajendra Singh) and Mr (Sher Singh) of Ropar District in Punjab alleged that the government's interference has resulted in Gurdwaras being used as hideouts for criminals. The judges directed Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, the Union Territory of Chandigarh, and others to file their replies within 3 weeks.

Bihar Press Bill Formally Withdrawn by Assembly

BK211609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] The Bihar press bill has been formally withdrawn. The chief minister, Dr Jagannath, moved a motion in the assembly for the withdrawal of the bill and the motion was unanimously passed.

Moving the motion, Dr Jagannath said that his government never intended to curb the freedom of the press or shield the corrupt. The only objective was to initiate a national debate on yellow journalism, he said. In view of journalists' resentment throughout

the country, he said, the bill has been withdrawn. All parties in the assembly welcomed the withdrawal.

Polisario Member Conveys Appeal to Ministry Officials
BK211509 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] The Polisario front fighting for the independence of Western Sahara has urged India to use its influence as the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement to strengthen the Organization of African Unity's efforts to bring Morocco to the negotiating table.

The Politburo member of the Polisario front, MaleinineSaddik, told PRESS TRUST OF INDIA in New Delhi today that he has conveyed his appeal to the senior officials of the External Affairs Ministry.

Finance Minister on IMF Loans, Inflation Rate
BK220215 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] India will start repaying the IMF loan from 1984-85. The finance minister, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, told newsmen in Calcutta today that till now India's debt service position is within manageable limits. It would remain so if no fresh borrowings are made in the next 2 years.

Asked about the inflation in the country, he said the rate of inflation was only 1.5 percent in the 6 weeks ended early this month against 2.6 percent in the corresponding period last year. He said that to expedite the construction work of the second Hoogly bridge, a monetary committee comprising central and state representatives would be formed. If the bridge could not be completed within the time schedule, the extra cost would have to be borne by the state government.

Zia Comments on Geneva Talks at Tokyo Press Club

BK210323 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 20 Jul 83

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said good results have been achieved at the UN-sponsored indirect talks at Geneva for a political settlement of the Afghanistan issue. Such political dialogue is time-consuming and one should not expect immediate result. What is important is the initiation of the talks.

Addressing members of the Japan National Press Club in Tokyo today, the president emphasized that Pakistan had managed to defuse the situation through the indirect Geneva talks. Replying to a question about [word indistinct] deliberation at the Geneva talks, he said at the present stage the timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan was being discussed. Pakistan was insisting that it should be the shortest possible time. The Geneva talks, the president said, had the tacit approval of the Soviet Union, as the key to the solution of the Afghan problem lay in Moscow. Since the Soviet Union has indicated its intentions to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan without going into any intricacies, let us take Moscow on its word and help it to withdraw. The negotiations, he added, were aimed at achieving this objective.

The president said Pakistan and the Soviet Union had friction-free bilateral relations. Yet, the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan has changed the geopolitical complexion in the area which has directly affected Pakistan. This action of the Soviet Union is not acceptable because it is against the norms and principles of interstate relationship. Pakistan has been striving at all world forums, including the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Organization of Islamic Conference, for the rectification of the situation. That is why, he said, the Soviet Union has shown inclination for a political settlement of the problem.

In reply to a question, the president said Pakistan had no intention to acquire nuclear technology except for peaceful purposes. However, he made it clear that Pakistan would not sign the proliferation treaty as it could not be discriminated against in this respect. There were many countries, he said, who had refused to sign the treaty and got away with many of their actions. If these countries could not be forced, it would be unfair to expect Pakistan to sign the treaty in the same circumstances. The president, however, categorically said that if the treaty was applied without discrimination, Pakistan would be first to sign it.

Earlier, the president was given a standing ovation as he entered the press club and cheered by the members of the club. The club hosted a luncheon in his honor. The president also gave souvenirs to the president and general secretary of the club. He invited them to visit Pakistan.

BANGLADESH

President Chowdhury Admitted to Hospital 21 July

BK220654 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] President Ahsanuddin Chowdhury was admitted into the Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka yesterday for investigation and treatment. His general health condition is satisfactory. [passage indistinct].

NEPAL

Prime Minister Chand Holds Press Conference

BK211724 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand said today that the reduction in the price of coarse rice, electricity and soybean oil, the release of political detainees, and initiation of the action against [word indistinct] business firms on the charges of [words indistinct] should give one the idea how the newly constituted Council of Ministers is functioning. The prime minister made this observation today at his first press conference after assuming the office. He added that the measures to be taken by the new Council of Ministers would be in the same of (?spirit).

He said that political detainees other than those held under custody on criminal charges would be released gradually, and added some of the political detainees in the (?process) had already been released. He said that the political detainees now released were (?just symbolic) and their number would (?swell) in future.

Armenian Army Claims Explosions at French Offices

OW220221 Hong Kong AFP in English 0126 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Tehran, July 22 (AFP) — Explosions ripped through two French Offices here Thursday night following threats by extremist Armenians to attack French institutions unless France freed their jailed comrades.

Two grenades were thrown at the French trade office, a French diplomatic source said, and another explosion hit the office here of the French airline Air France. No one was injured but the trade office was damaged, the source said.

The Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) claimed responsibility for the blasts in phone call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here.

Iranian police meanwhile mounted guard around the French Embassy after warnings of a bomb attack there.

(Eleven Armenians appeared before a French magistrate Wednesday on charges of links with ASALA in the wake of last Friday's bomb blast at Orly Airport south of Paris in which six people died and more than 50 others were injured.

(Police alleged that one of the 11 had confessed to planting the bomb.)

Majlis Speaker on Counterrevolution, Saudi Arabia

LD211024 Tehran IRNA in English 0915 GMT Jul 83

[Text] Tehran, July 21 (IRNA) — "Our beloved Islamic combatants are these days active in one of the most basic moves in the course of the war in the Kordestan and West Azarbayjan Provinces," said Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in the open session of the Majlis today.

He added that the said provinces were plagued by the fire of the counterrevolution in the past four years, and its people lacked peace and calm, due to the counterrevolutionaries who were fed from inside Iraqi territory.

"The timely move of the Islamic combatants," went on Rafsanjani, "and that of the Hamzeh base has brought these two provinces relatively in peace and calm."

He said Iran had captured important outposts in the past two days from Iraq which were the centers for the counterrevolution, being considerable ammunition depots.

Rafsanjani noted that Iraq was to use all those ammunition [as received] inside Iran, which he said were now fortunately in Iranian hands. "Among things which became clearer than ever before," continued Hashemi-Rafsanjani, "was the coordinated moves of all the counterrevolution, i.e. the monarchists, the Monafeqin, the communists, Kurds, Komelehs, and supporters of Talebani, as all as the Iraqi Armed Forces, which were all subjugated in this operation."

He said the people from these two provinces welcomed and were very joyous of the recent victories of the Islamic combatants there. He then hoped for the eradication of the counterrevolution from the two said provinces.

Speaking on the recent Saudi Arabian regime's obstructing works pertaining to the Iranian pilgrims to the house of God in Mecca he warned the Saudi Arabian regime of the impediments they created in the way of the Iranians. "We warn Saudi Arabia not to force us enter in trends [as received] we are not willing to, and not to make us reveal the things which we should reveal to the Islamic nations," noted the speaker.

He said the Saudis should note that the Ka'bah (house of God) belonged to all Muslims as well as the holy mosque and that prophet's mosque, and that depriving 100,000 Iranian pilgrims from Hajj pilgrimage precipitated very grave repercussions.

In conclusion, the speaker addressing the Islamic ulema, said that stopping pilgrims from hajj, was not something which could be tolerated.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Denounces French Policy

GF220832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Personnel of the political and ideological department of the Ministry of Defense, together with a group of employees of the welfare and social security organization, met with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Majlis.

In this meeting, the director of the political and ideological department of the Ministry of Defense reported on the activities of his department in ideological, political, and propaganda training. 'Ali Akbar Ejei, minister of state in charge of the welfare organization, then explained the services of his organization.

In this meeting, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis, after delivering instructions, talked about the ideological and political tasks of the army and the services the welfare and social security organization could render. He pointed out the intensified and glorified dimension of the Islamic Revolution and the plots and investment of the enemies of Islam for extinguishing the revolution.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis, while explaining the role of France in this regard, said that France, with all its facilities, is trying to strangle the Islamic Republic and is supporting its enemies. In the past, France,was the founder of revolution. Now it is committing the most disgraceful deeds and this disgraceful country is completely at a loss. It ignores humanitarian and international politics and it seems that it has an international assignment.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis further said that in the Iran-Iraq war, France favors aggressor Iraq, has given the most sophisticated weapons to Iraq, has overtly sheltered and protected a group of terrorists who have officially issued commu

niques and have confessed their crimes, and has supported a number of hijackers who are international criminals. France also sheltered a number of pirates who have pirated our gunboats and warships.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis, noted that the Socialist Party of France is acting disgracefully and with shame and said that it would be acceptable not to have international commitments to France.

He added that France, which has a ruined economy, is in need of the dollars of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other emirates, and is begging from them like a beggar. It seems that by accomplishing its assignments, France has received a great number of loans. He said: We must wait for an appropriate opportunity to strike a reciprocal blow against France.

Khamene'i on Military Ideological-Political Offices

LD212105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] Members of the Defense Ministry's political and ideological organization and directors of that organization's departments, on the second day of their seminar, met at noon today with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and the president of the Supreme Defense Council.

In their meeting with the president, they were accompanied by Hojjat ol-Eslam Saf'i, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces political and ideological office. During this meeting, the head of the Defense Ministry political and ideological organization presented a report to the president on the organization's performance and developments in its training.

Addressing the audience, the president referred to the importance of all ideological-political offices in the country's military bodies and their decisive and delicate roles: Political and ideological offices are an essential and vital foundation of the regime of the Islamic Republic. Your task is to teach true religion and insight to a strata of the population which, by becoming religious, can adopt the correct position in political affairs, the overall effects of which have considerable value for the system of the Islamic Republic. The Armed Forces and the Ministry of Defense which are entrusted with the task of defending the system of the Islamic Republic must have faith in the system's ideology — Islam.

Continuing his remarks, the president of the Supreme Defense Council said: Political-ideological offices are responsible for promoting and deepening Islamic faith and political thought derived from Islam in the heart of all military personnel; this is a task dictated by God and the military personnel deserving it.

I am sincerely grateful and thankful to my brothers in the Armed Forces for their sincere efforts to comprehend religion.

Referring to the necessity that preachers must act with utmost accuracy and delicacy wherever they are, the president said: In the Armed Forces this accuracy should be increased, and our responsible brothers and sisters in the political-idiological departments must pay careful attention to the organization's tasks and duties. If there are any shortages or requirements, they must be provided.

Referring to enforcement and respect of law and discipline, Khamene'i said: Official discipline must be enforced very strictly. Anyone saying that discipline is a satanic issue obviously understands neither the meaning of discipline or the meaning of satanical. Discipline is a divine issue. The president of the Supreme Defense Council added: We will not allow any military personnel to transgress against the Armed Forces chain of command; such disregard is not acceptable whatsoever.

Concluding his remarks, the president said: Duties must be carried out to the best of your ability and accompanied by initiative and maximum effort. We are determined to rid ourselves of dependence on foreigners. For this reason, I have created in the Armed Forces a deputy for the self-sufficiency crusade. The staff of national defense industries must make every effort for the whole organization to take a great stride forward in the effort for self-sufficiency and to become a symbol of the self-sufficiency crusade.

Judicial Council Media Representatives Resign

GF220640 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Our correspondent has reported that following the resignations of the judicial and administrative representatives in the management council of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the following correspondences were published by the Supreme Judicial Council and the prime minister.

In His exalted name. Brothers Mohammad Jawad Larijani and 'Ali Janati, your resignations as representatives of the Supreme Judicial Council in the Voice and Vision of Iran, were accepted and approved by this council.

Supreme Judicial Council, 21 July 1983

Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi issued the following response:

In His exalted name: Brothers Gholam Reza Aqazadeh and Mohammad Hoseyn Taromi, state representatives in the management council of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran: Your resignation from the management council of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby is accepted.

Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister, 21 July 1983

'Counterrevolutionaries' Crushed in Piranshahr

LD211815 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Communique issued by Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada base, joint operations center of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The self-sacrificing armies of the Koran, the God-seeking combatants of Islam, and the valiant sons of the Islamic homeland, assisted by God Almighty's special blessing and under the leadership of our dear imam of the nation and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, are advancing and dealing crushing blows to agents of world arrogance.

The brave sons of the army of Islam — continuing their triumphant operations with reliance on God and aimed at pursuing and crushing counterrevolution and destroying their Zionist-Ba'thist supporters' positions in the Piranshahr region — last night inflicted heavy blows on the enemy, killing and injuring hundreds of Zionist-Ba'thist enemies and a large number of armed insurgents and capturing a number of them.

During this victorious operation, the combatants of Islam, consisting of valiant combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, selfless guards and the mobilizaiton unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Muslim Kordish peshmerga, and Muslim Iraqi combatants, also succeeded in bringing down with their crushing fire an aggressor Ba'thist helicopter which had been covering the counterrevolution's positions.

The self-sacrificing personnel of Islam also fired on enemy communication and supply lines across the border and destroyed several aggressor Ba'thist and armed counterrevolution insurgents. During this triumphant operation, several ammunition depots and a considerable amount of enemy equipment were set on fire and several of their vehicles on the region's heights were fired on and burned for several hours.

[Signed] Hamzeh ash-Shohada, peace be upon him, base, joint operation center of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,383

LD211912 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,383 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Islam's combatants continued to wage a defensive battle against the aggressive Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries on the battlefields of the imposed war with exchanges of fire. Islam's selfless combatants maintained superiority and its mighty and victorious warriors, protected by obliging God, continue to deal their crushing blows at the falling Saddamist forces.

During the past 24 hours on the country's western and southern fronts, exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued sporadically and limited engagements took place on certain fronts during which our combatants, crushing enemy movements, inflicted losses and casualties on the Iraqi Ba'thist forces. On every front, our forces engaged in strengthening their defensive positions and controlling the Iraqi forces' movements and traffic.

On Bakhtaran's border fronts, they killed or wounded more than 12 enemy servicemen. On the Piranshahr front, a Saddamist base was set on fire. On the Marivan front, the Islamic combatants' fire destroyed part of the Saddamists' positions in the Bana Suteh region and inflicted casualties on the Saddamist forces.

On 19 July, Iraqi patrol groups intended to penetrate our forces' defensive lines in Sharhani and (Pich Angizeh), but thanks to the Islamic combatants' vigilance their movements were observed and they were forced to flee after suffering losses and casualties.

On the Abadan front, our Gendarmerie combatants opened retaliatory fire on the enemy's positions and fortifications, silencing the Iraqi forces' fire, stopping their engineering operations aimed at strengthening their positions, destroying a number of the aggressors' trenches, and killing or wounding enemy servicemen.

Yesterday the criminal Saddamist mercenaries sporadically subjected the city of Abadan to their heavy weapons fire, destroying two houses and setting fire to part of a school.

During the past 24 hours, the defenders of the airspace of our dear Islamic homeland, the air defense units, and the fast-flying pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran thwarted and neutralized all attempts at air raids by the attacking aircraft of the aggressive Armed Forces of Iraq against our country's western and southern fronts.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Indian Foreign Minister Leaves Tehran for Shiraz

GF211724 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] Tehran, July 21, IRNA — The Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao, who was heading a high-ranking economic delegation to Tehran, left Tehran for Shiraz this afternoon after a four day visit and talks with high-ranking Iranian officials. On his way home, from Shiraz, Rao will stop over in Dubai for a short visit.

Speaking to reporters at Tehran Mehrabad International Airport, he described his trip as useful and productive and hoped that mutual relations would further expand. The Indian foreign minister further added that during the visit joint committees were held and reached agreements.

During his visit which took place at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart, Narasimha Rao held talks with President 'Ali Khamene'i, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslami Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Chief Justice 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili and several cabinet ministers.

Commenting on his meeting with the Iranian officials, the Indian foreign minister said that he discussed economic issues which were useful in reaching mutual stands. He added that the talks were held in friendly atmosphere. Among issues discussed with Dr. Velayati, were those related to the Non-aligned Movement, he added. In the meetings various economic issues were discussed which would be reflected in the joint communique, said the Indian foreign minister.

Narasimha Rao told reporters that India as a founding member of the Non-aligned Movement and its present head, would uphold and pursue the objectives of the movement.

Speaking to reporters, Dr. Velayati said that in his trip to India last year it was decided that the Indian foreign minister would pay a state visit to Iran during which draft for formation of a joint commission for cooperation would be signed. This document was signed during this visit and consequently three committees on trade, industries and cultural activities were formed.

The Iranian foreign minister further added that in a visit today with his Indian counterpart, function of these commissions were assessed and a letter of understanding was signed. He further pointed out that a joint communique was supposed to be released in New Delhi and Tehran simultaneously. At the end he added that the joint commission would meet in Tehran and New Delhi every year alternately.

Arrival in Shiraz

GF211736 Tehran IRNA in English 1627 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] Shiraz, July 21, IRNA — The foreign minister of India, Narasimha Rao, arrived here this afternoon and was welcomed by the governor general of Fars Province, Ne'matollah Toqa, military commanders and other provincial officials.

The Indian foreign minister, who was visiting Tehran as the head of a high-ranking delegation from his country since Monday, left Tehran the same afternoon to vist the scientific and industrial centres as well as the ancient and historical sites of Fars Province.

Nigerian, Sierra Leonean Foreign Ministers Arrive

GF220617 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] According to our correspondent's report, the foreign ministers of Nigeria and Sierra Leone, heading delegations which will hold talks with the officials of our country, arrived in Tehran this morning.

Radio Iran Views New Antiprofiteering Regulations

GF190530 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Following the (?threatening) of the shopkeepers and bazaar merchants with execution, Kalhor, the Islamic Republic prosecutor for guilds affairs, warned all manufacturers, importers, and dealers that they should cooperate with the government of Mir-Hoseyn Musavi in order to safeguard the injunctions of Islam.

Obviously, this warning is not for the sake of the people's cause; it is an enforced command to the manufacturers, importers,and dealers to uphold the injunctions of Islam by cooperating with the government. There is no danger to the injunctions of Islam, but these people, the buyers and those in need in society,are helpless before spiraling prices, black marketing, and shortages.

Due to the warning by the so-called Islamic Revolution prosecutor for guilds affairs, the import of goods without the invoices and documents, the receiving of any sum except that specified in the invoices, sale of goods at prices other than those fixed, and the hoarding of commodities for longer than is necessary will be considered crimes, and violators will be liable to the severest penalties and punishments. According to the warning of the Islamic prosecutor, the names, surnames, and particulars will be announced in order to identify the true faces of the counterrevolution.

The only question that remains is: If the bazaar merchants and dealers refuse to buy expensive items such as rice and the people urgently need such commodities, what will the government do? The government is incompetent and has no reserves — how will it meet the needs of the people of Iran? Will it be by mobilizing just 40 more bakeries in Tehran or buying a consignment of rice from the cultivators of the north over a period of 6 months? People want bread and rice now, not 6 months from now. People are hungry right now and are opposing the government now, but do they have to cooperate with such a government as well, as per the Islamic prosecutor for guilds affairs' warning and that too, just for the safeguarding of the injunctions of Islam, in other words, the mullahs' regime?

Radio Iran Decries Shortages, High Prices,Hoarding

GF201910 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 20 Jul 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] It has been 20 days since officials of the Islamic Republic regime started constantly talking about high prices and hoarding. Instead of reviewing the causes of such problems in the country and taking wise political, social, and economic courses of action to eradicate the daily problems of the people and especially the oppressed classes, their only solution has been the introduction of another mental patient as a new terrorist execu

tioner to the ill-fated people of our country. The regime's new executioner who has surpassed both Sheykh Sadeq Khalkhali and the former carpenter Ayatollah Lajvardi in murder and craziness is Sheykh Kalhor, who already has announced he will execute many by the grace of God.

The most remarkable part of the statement by Khomeyni's new executioner is that instead of offering a solution and expressing hope for the betterment of the current economic ills, he clearly announced that "God willing, we will execute many." The statement by this illiterate refugee from a mental institution called the Islamic Republic regime may mean that in the very near future a group of innocent people or possibly a number of third and fourth rate merchants are executed for selling merchandise for a few rials more. Such barbaric confrontations with the fundamental sociopolitical and economic problems of the Islamic Republic will never divert the current chaotic situation toward the desired goals. Profiteering and hoarding are caused by short supplies and as a result of incorrect and unjust distribution. In any healthy economy where the supply and demand of popular goods enjoy a balance, the population will never become familiar with such phrases as profiteering, shortages,and hoarding. The Islamic Republic regime should look for the roots of the current problem in its mismanagement, internal corruption, and its own inadequacy.

In a country where the public wealth increases by $2 million every hour because of the sale of oil, people are forced to stand for hours in lines in fronts of mosques — places which are now converted to spice shops, groceries, and secondhand stores — for the sake of half a kilo of bread or rice, either one being the fundamental base of the diet, so that the food for the family is obtained for another.

Compatriots, under such circumstances, if the regime of the mullahs thinks that the aware people of our homeland who stand in lines under a scorching sun for hours in order to obtain their most basic needs do not know the identity of the people responsible for the present calamitous situation in Iranian society and if the regime believes that by threats, slogans, and by the use of propaganda it can deceive public opinion then it is gravely mistaken. The Iranian people are completely aware that the present shortages, high prices, and hoarding are created by the decadence of the ruling clique and the work of the mullahs who plunder part of the national Iranian wealth and spend the rest to supply the materials of death for their useless war. The people of Iran also know that the current miserable situation will not improve unless we destroy the agents of this decadence.

IRNA Reports 10 Afghan Soldiers Join Mujahidin

GF211650 Tehran IRNA in English 1623 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] Zahedan, July 21, IRNA — Ten Afghan soldiers harassed by oppression and crimes of their country's rulers joined the Muslim combatants of Afghanistan early this week. These soldiers also handed in 25 weapons.

Reliable sources further added that those who have recently joined the Muslim combatants reported extensive differences among the Soviet military advisors and militarymen of the Afghan Government.

Montazeri Holds Meetings in Qom 16 July

LD171209 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The Central News Unit reports that Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis, who was on a visit to Qom to take part in the sessions of the Council of Experts at the Fayziyeh school, met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday and discussed with him the country's various issues.

During the meeting, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri made recommendations on and stressed the need for greater attention by government and officials concerned to the causes for high prices and hoarding and to urgent action on the proper distribution of food items and public necessities. He also offered certain guidelines for a better integration and cohesion of combatant forces at the battlefronts with the mercenaries of the Zionist Iraqi regime.

According to the report, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni also met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri after attending a session of the Council of Experts yesterday. During the meeting, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri prayed for the health and continued life or the great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He also made certain recommendations as a message to the imam regarding the internal situation at the Qom seminary and its curriculum, as well as matters relating to the Friday imams across the country and the need to strengthen the Secretariat of the Central Council of Friday Imams.

Friday imams of the cities of Mashhad, Esfahan, Zahedan, Rasht, Najafabad, Qazvin, and Tonkabon, and Fazel Harandi, Seyyed Mohammad 'Ali Dastgheyb, Seyyed 'Ali Asghar Dastgheyb, and Mr Zarandi, one of the ulema from Bahktaran, also met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom. They reported to him on the situation in their respective areas of responsibility.

The report adds that Rabbani-Amlashi; Taheri-Khorramabadi; the imam's representative in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Musavi, the Imam's representative in Kordestan; Hajj Sheykh Mohammad 'Ali Aminian, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's representative in Gilan University; Montajabnia, deputy for Andimeshk in the Islamic Consultative Assembly; and Hajj Sheykh Qodratollah Valikhani and Hajj Sheykh Hoseyn 'Alikhani, officials in charge of the Qazvin Islamic Revolution committee also met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom. They discussed various issues with him.

Briefs

Exports to USSR — Port Anzali, Rasht, July 21, IRNA — More than 100,000 kgs of henna and saffron were exported to the Soviet Union through port of Anazali during the first four months of the year 1362 [March 21-July 20 1983]. The head of the agricultural department of port of Anzali announcing this today also said that due to the favorable response of the farmers the cultivation of rice this year (1362) has increased three and half times as compared to the preceeding year. [Text] [Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 21 Jul 83 GF]